

# Optimization weekly meeting

## May 4, 2006

### Chapter 4: Hypothesis Testing and Estimation

Empirical Methods for  
Artificial Intelligence

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IRIDIA - ULB  
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# Outline

what we did in part 1 and what we have to do in part 2

-  Statistical Inference
-  Introduction to Hypothesis Testing
-  Sampling Distributions and Hypothesis Testing Strategy
-  Test of Hypotheses about Means
-  Hypothesis about Correlations
-  Parameter Estimation and Confidence Intervals
-  How big Should Samples Be?
-  Errors
-  Power Curves and How to Get Them



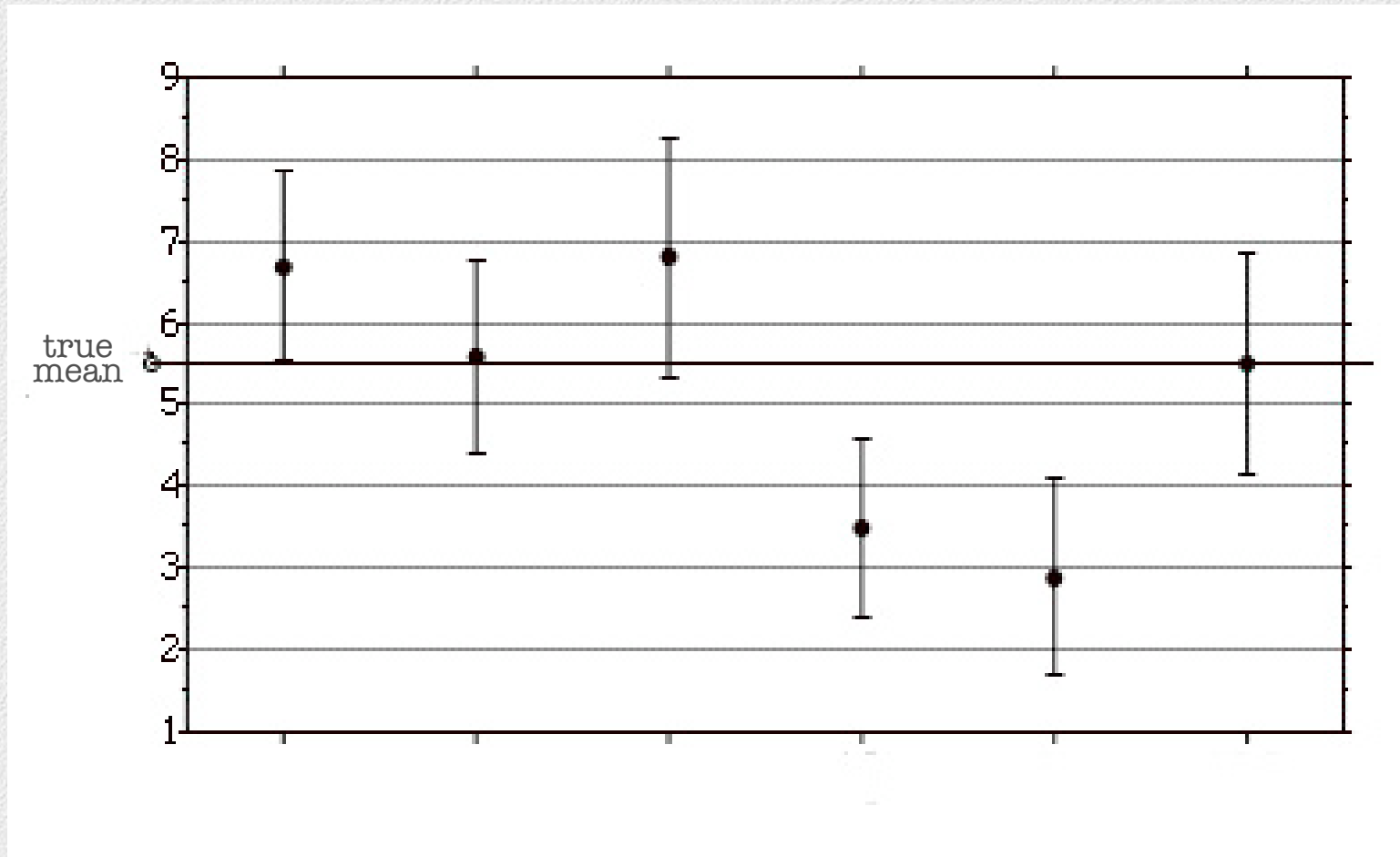
# Outline

part 2

- Parameter Estimation and Confidence Intervals
- How big Should Samples Be?
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A **confidence interval** gives an estimated range of values (calculated from a given set of sample data) which is likely to include an unknown population parameter like  $\mu_x, \sigma^2, \sigma$



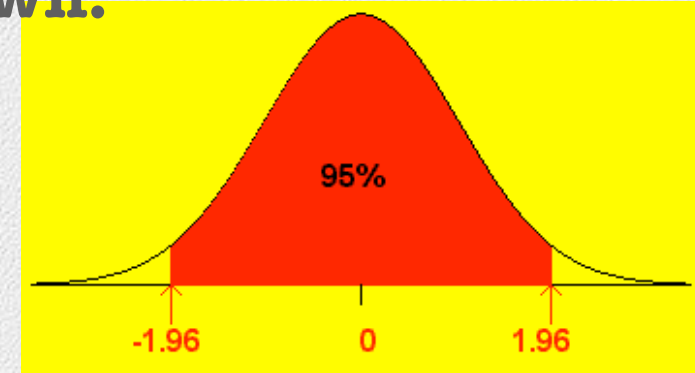
Java applet to demo confidence intervals for means

[http://www.math.csusb.edu/faculty/stanton/m262/confidence\\_means/confidence\\_means.html](http://www.math.csusb.edu/faculty/stanton/m262/confidence_means/confidence_means.html)



## Confidence intervals for $\mu$ when $\sigma$ is known:

$\bar{x} = \mu \pm 1.96\sigma_{\bar{x}}$  for 95% of the means  $\bar{x}$



If  $\epsilon = 1.96\sigma_{\bar{x}}$  the confidence interval  $\bar{x} \pm \epsilon$  will contain  $\mu$  in 95% of the samples we draw.

## Confidence intervals for $\mu$ when $\sigma$ is unknown:

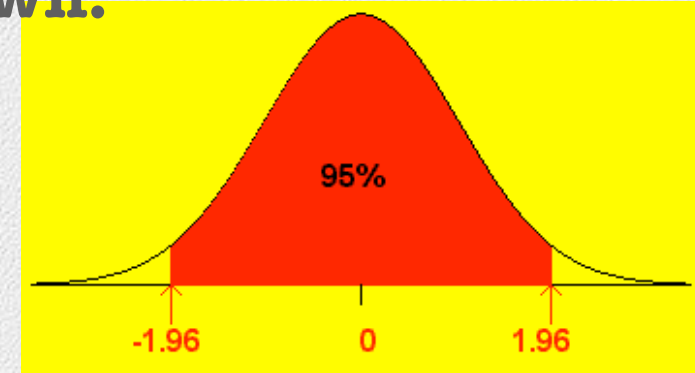
$\bar{x} = \mu \pm t_{0.025}\hat{\sigma}_{\bar{x}}$  for 95% of the means  $\bar{x}$

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### Confidence intervals

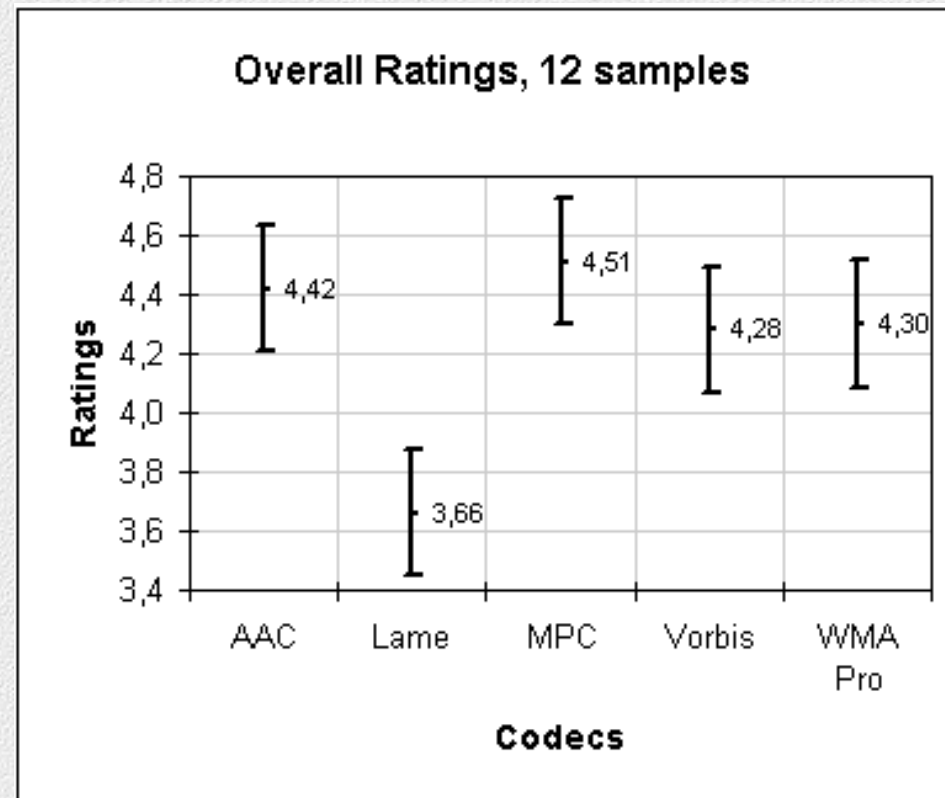
Because confidence intervals depend on standard errors, they are affected by sample size.



In general, one shouldn't use confidence intervals to test hypotheses if the confidence intervals overlap.

Confidence interval for means are estimated from standard errors of individual means, while two-sample t-test relies on standard error of the difference between the means.

Different sampling distribution and standard errors are involved.





# Outline

part 2

- ☒ Parameter Estimation and Confidence Intervals
- ☐ How big Should Samples Be?
- ☐ Errors
- ☐ Power Curves and How to Get Them



In parameter estimation if we increase the sample size and the sample variance doesn't increase (a reasonable assumption), then the confidence interval narrows.

(Our confidence in the estimate doesn't change, but the range of the estimate reduces)

In hypothesis testing, by contrast, the only thing that changes when increasing the sample size is our confidence in the conclusion.

(so if our sample is large enough to make us confident, nothing is gained by having a larger sample)



In parameter estimation if we increase the sample size and the sample standard deviation increases (a reasonable assumption), the standard error of the estimate (Our confidence interval reduces)

### **Parameter estimation**

**Samples should be as large as we can afford**

In hypothesis testing, the power of the test that changes when increased sample size increases the confidence in the conclusion. (so if our sample size is small, we need a larger sample to gain the same confidence gained by having a larger sample)

### **Hypothesis Testing**

**Samples should be no larger than required to show an effect**



Samples can be too big for hypothesis testing.

Any real statistical effect can be boosted to significance by increasing N.

$$\bar{x} = \mu \pm t_{0.025} \hat{\sigma}_{\bar{x}}$$

(this is because the standard error of any statistic is reduced by increasing N)

One can obtain  $\bar{x}_1 \neq \bar{x}_2$  in a statistical significant way by increasing N.

The whole point of statistical inference is to go beyond sample results to say something about populations, to predict future results.



# Outline

part 2

☒ Parameter Estimation and Confidence Intervals

☒ How big Should Samples Be?



☐ Errors

☐ Power Curves and How to Get Them





## In hypothesis testing:

	reject $H_0$	don't reject $H_0$
if $H_0$ true	type I error	
if $H_1$ true		type II error



## In hypothesis testing:

reject  $H_0$

don't reject  $H_0$

if  $H_0$  true

### **Type I error**

$$\alpha = \Pr(\text{type I error}) = \Pr(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ is true})$$

if  $H_1$  true

### **Type II error**

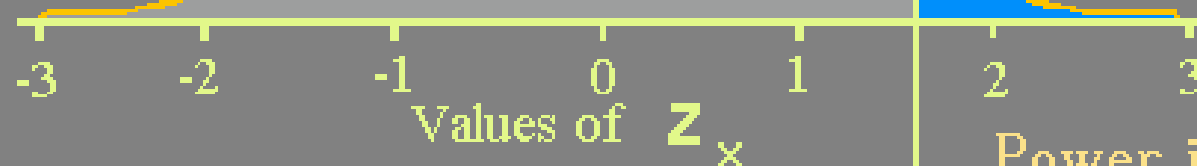
$$\beta = \Pr(\text{type II error}) = \Pr(\text{Fail to reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ is false})$$



Here is the distribution of values of  $Z$  when the hypothesis tested (mean  $Z=0$ ) is true.

Alpha is the probability of rejecting the hypothesis tested when that hypothesis is true.

Here we have set  $\alpha = .05$



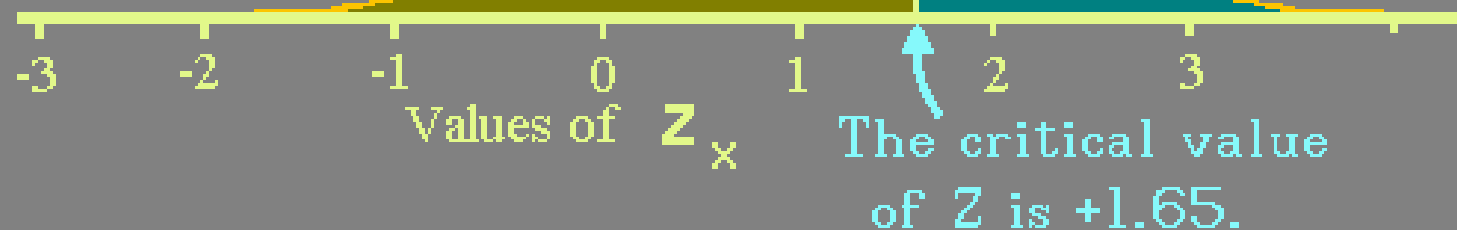
Here is the distribution of values of  $Z$  when a particular alternative hypothesis (mean  $Z=1$ ) is true.

Power is the probability of rejecting the hypothesis tested when the alternative hypothesis is true.

Beta is the probability of accepting the hypothesis tested when the alternative hypothesis is true.

Beta = .74

Power = .26



<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/statglos/sgbeta.htm>



Here is the distribution of values of  $Z$  when the hypothesis tested (mean  $Z=0$ ) is true.

Alpha is the probability of rejecting the hypothesis tested when that hypothesis is true.

Here we have set  $\alpha = .05$



If the variance of the sampling distribution are small, you decrease the probability of both type I and type II errors.  
To do so, increase the sample size

Power is the probability of rejecting the hypothesis tested when the alternative hypothesis is true.

es  
ive

74

Power = .26

The critical value of  $Z$  is +1.65.

<http://www.animatedsoftware.com/statglos/sbeta.htm>



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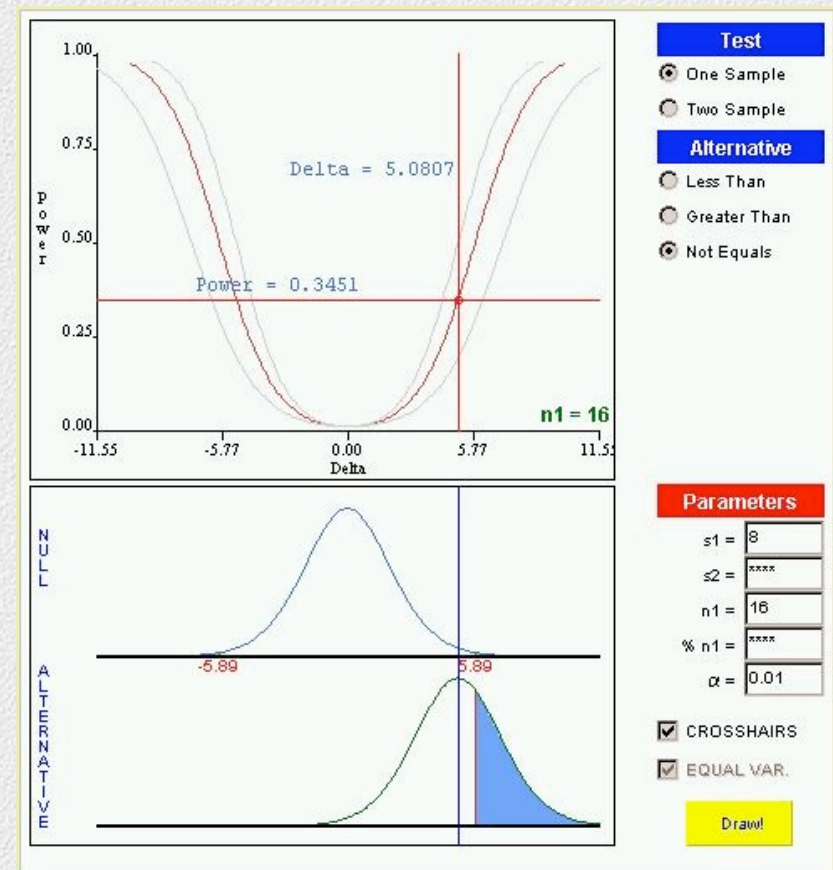


The power of a test depends on:

- the  $\alpha$  level of the test;
- the degree of separation between  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  distributions;
- the variances of the populations from which samples are drawn;
- sample size  $N$

**Power curves** plot power against changes in one of these factors.

<http://www.amstat.org/publications/jse/v11n3/anderson-cook.html>







# Demo

R File Edit Format Workspace Packages & Data Misc Window Help 100% (Charged) Tue 2:14 PM stefano iacus

R Console

```
rgl.sr> ylen <- ylim[2] - ylim[1] + 1
rgl.sr> colorlut <- terrain.colors(ylen)
rgl.sr> col <- colorlut[y - ylim[1] + 1]
rgl.sr> rgl.clear()
rgl.sr> rgl.surface(x, z, y, color = col)
```

R Data Editor

height	weight
58	115
59	117
60	120
61	123
62	126
63	129
64	132
65	135
66	139
67	142
68	146
69	150
70	154
71	159
72	164

Quartz (2) - Active

Given : depth

long

R Workspace Browser

Object	Type	Structure
▶ dati	data.frame	dim: 20 4
g	factor	levels: 10
l	numeric	length: 12
n	numeric	length: 1
▶ opar	list	length: 2
pie.sales	numeric	length: 6
pin	numeric	length: 2
scale	numeric	length: 1
usr	numeric	length: 4
▼ women	data.frame	dim: 15 2
height	numeric	length: 15
weight	numeric	length: 15
x	numeric	length: 87

Refresh List

BoxDens=function(data, npts = 200., x = c(0.,  
add = TRUE, col = 11., border=FALSE, collin  
{  
dens <- density(data, n = npts)  
dx <- dens\$x  
dy <- dens\$y  
if(add == FALSE)  
plot(0., 0., axes = F, main = "", xlim = x, ylim = y,  
ylab = "")  
if(orientation == "paysage") {  
dx2 <- (dx - min(dx))/(max(dx) - min(dx)) \* (x[2.] - x  
x[1.]  
dy2 <- (dy - min(dy))/(max(dy) - min(dy)) \* (y[2.] - y  
y[1.]  
seqbelow <- rep(y[1.], length(dx))  
if(Fill == T)  
confshade(dx2, seqbelow, dy2, col = col)  
if (border==TRUE) points(dx2, dy2, type = "l", col = c  
}  
else {  
dy2 <- (dy - min(dy))/(max(dy) - min(dy)) \* (y[2.] - y  
y[1.]

RGL device 1 (active)

The R Graphics Package

Documentation for package 'graphics' version 2.0.0

Help Pages

ABCDEFGHIJLMNPRSTX